for Verse and Prose Recitation arranged readings of 'good poetry and plays* in public houses, drinkers temporarily laying aside their pints of bitter and games of darts, and suspending their conversation, to listen to undergraduates, attired with suitable carelessness, declaiming dramatic pieces. It is probable/ the Committee reported, 'that not since Shakespeare's day has there been such an opportunity of gaining a cumulative experience of entertaining people in the inn by good poetry and drama/ and went on to explain that it had proved unnecessary [6]to make wholesale concessions in literary and dramatic standards'to give real enjoyment' to uncultivated audiences. Higher and lower education received attention; and if new schools were rarely built, it was because, with a declining birth-rate, a shortage of pupils was to be anticipated—more education than pupils requiring it, more infant-welfare than infants, more eye and dental treatment than eyes and teeth. Scholarship facilities were extended, until, it was said, even the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge drew more of their undergraduates from elementary and secondary schools than from public schools. To augment its resources, Oxford University appealed for funds, "which came in scantily until Lord Nuffield began to contribute; then showed a mighty increase, the last of his donations, bringing the total up to well over *-jC* 1,000,000, so overwhelming the assembled University Senate with gratitude when it was announced, that the Vice-Chancellor found himself unable to utter words, but had to content himself with making appreciative gestures*

London University acquired a site in Bloomsbury, where a

massive building soon began to rise. By the time it was com-
pleted the University had scattered, and the building was used
to house a Ministry of Information; still the same line of business
—informing, but a different branch fiom the one originally
intended.

With one small token set-back, taxation, like the social services,
went on effortlessly increasing; the inevitability of its increase
detracting from, the Budget's majesty. Formerly its preseutatior
had been perhaps the most solemn of all parliamentary occasion;